

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Simple and economic electrolytic synthesis of peracetic acid is performed, and cold drink containers, etc., are sterilized/cleaned with an aqueous solution of peracetic acid thus obtained. Peracetic acid is electrolytically synthesized from acetic acid and/or acetate and an oxygen-containing gas as starting materials in the presence of a solid acid catalyst in an electrolytic cell. An object to be cleaned is sterilized/cleaned with an aqueous solution of peracetic acid thus obtained. Peracetic acid can be simply obtained at a reduced cost. The sterilizing/cleaning of an object to be cleaned with peracetic acid can be conducted efficiently.